

## CISR SERVICES IN STATE FISCAL YEAR (SFY) 2018

Services to continue with new contracts in SFY 2018, beginning July 1, 2017:

- Child Welfare Emergency Services (CWES)
- Foster Group Care Services (FGCS)
- Supervised Apartment Living (SAL)

## CISR REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) INTENT AND GENERAL SCOPE

Intent of the CISR RFP and general scope of work:

- Provide services that are consistent with the DHS Family-Centered and Child Welfare Models of Practice, the Juvenile Court Services' (JCS) Model of Practice, and the Guiding Principles for Iowa's Future Child Welfare System of Care ([link here](#)).
- Maintain focus on the family and build on its strengths.
- Serve each child near their home or community, and generally within the boundaries of the DHS defined Service Areas.
- Award multiple contracts for each of the three services in each Service Area and to encourage the movement of children back to their communities of origin; preserving connections to their families, home communities, schools, and positive support systems.
- Ensure that children who age-out of foster care have the skills and connections to successfully transition to young adulthood.

## WHAT STAYS THE SAME

- Ongoing focus on child safety, permanence, and well-being; keeping in alignment with the Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) federal expectations.
- Individual service contracts for each of the three services (while seeking innovative approaches toward integrating services and creating a system of care for children who require emergency or out-of-home placements.)

## WHAT'S NEW STARTING JULY 1, 2017

**Contracts Awarded by Service Area**

Contracts will be awarded within DHS Service Areas, not "statewide" as they are today. Contractors will be responsible for serving the children in the Service Area where they are located, while some flexibility will be exercised to serve children from adjoining or nearby communities.

**Guaranteed Payments for Services**

Purchasing CWES shelter, foster group care, and SAL cluster beds with guaranteed payments regardless of use.

### **No Reject/No Eject Referrals**

Referrals will operate under a No Reject/No Eject basis, while recognizing that DHS and JCS may approve exceptions in unique situations.

### **Education Specialist**

For each child, contractors will assign an Education Specialist who will be directly responsible for a child's education and related planning, services, and needs; in all cases when possible a child will be maintained in their school of origin.

### **Focus of Services**

The focus of services will be to divert from placement to emergency juvenile shelter, shorten lengths of stay in both shelter and foster group care when those placements are needed, and assure that youth reap the full benefits of SAL while in those placements. All services youth receive will support post-discharge in order to avoid returns to out-of-home care.

### **One Caseworker Model**

Contractors will follow a One Caseworker model to coordinate the delivery of the child's service plan, updates, reporting, and reintegration. The One Caseworker will be the single point of contact for the child, the child's family or other persons in the child's positive support system, and for the referring worker.

### **Crisis Intervention Planning**

Contractors will develop crisis intervention plans that apply to their overall operations and to specific and individual child needs. Both plans are intended to provide a framework to address overall practice and meet individuals' needs to reduce or eliminate critical incidents that might lead to injury, elopement, police calls, or ejections from the program.

### **Reintegration Planning**

Reintegration planning, preparing a child for their next step after leaving the placement will begin at the time of admission and become part of each child's service plan.

### **Enhanced Collaboration with Stakeholders**

Enhanced collaboration with other child welfare stakeholders will promote and assure continuity of care from when the child enters the placement, during the stay of care, and through post-placement to assure ongoing supports needed for success after discharge.

## **PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

Performance measures will provide fiscal incentives for successful outcomes. Please see individual CISR service documents for Child Welfare Emergency Services, Foster Group Care Services, and Supervised Apartment Living.